

Report on the

Board of Examiners in Psychology

State of Alabama

Montgomery, Alabama



Department of

Examiners of Public Accounts

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September 21, 2011

Senator Paul Bussman
Chairman, Sunset Committee
Alabama State House
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Senator Bussman,

This report was prepared to provide information for use by the Sunset Committee in conducting its review and evaluation of the operations of the **Board of Examiners in Psychology** in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-20-9.

The report contains unaudited information obtained from the management, staff, and records of the **Board of Examiners in Psychology**, in addition to information obtained from other sources.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this report.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Jones
Chief Examiner

Examiner
Constance L. Baldwin

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PROFILE

Purpose/Authority

The Board of Examiners in Psychology was created by Act No. 535, Acts of Alabama 1963, to regulate the practice of the psychology profession in Alabama. This is accomplished by examining, licensing and regulating persons who hold themselves out to be psychologists or psychological technicians. Current statutory authority for the board is the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 34-26-1 through 34-26-66.

<u>Characteristics</u>	
Members and Selection	<p>Seven (7) members, consisting of:</p> <p>(5) Five psychologists appointed by the governor from a list of nominees provided by the executive committee of the Alabama Psychological Association, or its successor organization.</p> <p>(1) One psychological technician appointed to the board from a list of four nominees submitted by the Alabama Psychological Association, or its successor organization.</p> <p>(1) One public member appointed by the governor from the public at large.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-21</p>
Term	<p>5 year staggered terms. Members are limited to two consecutive terms of office.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama</i>, Section 34-26-21</p>
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two members must be members of the faculty, with the rank of assistant professor or above, of the accredited colleges and universities of the state who are primarily engaged in teaching, research, or administration of psychology.• Three members must be licensed practicing psychologists.• One member must be licensed or qualified for licensure as a psychological technician• One must be a member of the general public who is an Alabama resident, who is not licensed by the board, and whose spouse, if married, is not licensed by the board. <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-21</p>

Racial Representation	<p>The public member must be black. One black member is serving</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-21(b)(2)</p>
Geographical Representation	No statutory requirement
Consumer Representation	<p>One member from the general public</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-21 (b)(1)</p>
Other Representation	No statutory requirement
Compensation	<p>No compensation; however, each member receives the same per diem and travel allowance paid to state employees for each day's attendance at an official meeting of the board.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-21(f)</p>
<u>Operations</u>	
Administrator	<p>Lori Rall, Executive Officer Employed by the board under contract Current Annual Salary- \$37,952 Salary set by the board</p>
Location	<p>660 Adams Avenue, Room 360 Montgomery, Alabama 36104 Hours of operation M-F, 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</p>
Examinations	<p>The board utilizes the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP), which is computer based and administered by Prometric through its network of Prometric Technology Centers. The examinations are developed by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Board for use in the licensure of Psychologists and Psychological Technicians. Exam fees are paid directly to the Association. Exams are given on a continuous basis in Montgomery, Birmingham, Dothan, Mobile and Huntsville.</p>

	<table><tr><th colspan="5">Psychologist Examination</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>2007</th><th>2008</th><th>2009</th><th>2010</th></tr><tr><td>Passed</td><td>30</td><td>49</td><td>34</td><td>42</td></tr><tr><td>Failed</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>8</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>37</td><td>58</td><td>42</td><td>52</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="5">Psychological Technician Examination</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>2007</th><th>2008</th><th>2009</th><th>2010</th></tr><tr><td>Passed</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>7</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Failed</td><td>0</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>8</td><td>4</td></tr></table> <p>Pass/Fail rates for graduates of Alabama institutes of higher education were not available.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-41(4)</p>	Psychologist Examination						2007	2008	2009	2010	Passed	30	49	34	42	Failed	7	9	8	10	Total	37	58	42	52	Psychological Technician Examination						2007	2008	2009	2010	Passed	5	2	7	3	Failed	0	4	1	1	Total	5	6	8	4
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Licensees	<p>Licenses issued as of July 12, 2011:</p> <table><tr><td>Licensed Psychologists</td><td>966</td></tr><tr><td>Licensed Psychological Technicians</td><td><u>31</u></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>997</td></tr></table>	Licensed Psychologists	966	Licensed Psychological Technicians	<u>31</u>	Total	997																																												
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Reciprocity	<p>Reciprocity may be granted by the board to an applicant who holds a valid license from another state which requires standards equivalent to Alabama’s for licensing or certifications. The board does not have reciprocity agreements with other states.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-41(c)</p>																																																		
Renewals	<p>Licenses are renewed annually, with October 15 being the official renewal date. If payment is not received by November 15 of each year, licensees are notified by certified letter of delinquency. Online renewals are not available.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-22 (a) <i>Administrative Rule</i> 750-X-4-.01</p>																																																		
Continuing Education	<p>Continuing education is required to renew a license. 20 hours per year for psychologists 10 hours per year for psychological technicians</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-26-22(b)</p>																																																		
Employees	2 part-time contract employees																																																		

Legal Counsel	Matthew L. Beam, private attorney
Subpoena Power	Yes, both records and persons <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-26-22(a) and 34-26-47
Internet Presence	http://www.psychology.alabama.gov The site includes: Meeting schedule Fee schedule Complaint Information Application Information Continuing education information Enabling statutes and administrative code Newsletter Licensure application License verification License renewal
Attended Board Member Training	No board members or employees have attended the Board Member Training Session in the last four years.
<u>Financial</u>	
Source of Funds	Licensing fees
State Treasury	Yes – Special Revenue Fund 0406
Required Distributions	No distributions required.
Unused Funds	Retains unused balances for subsequent years' expenditures.

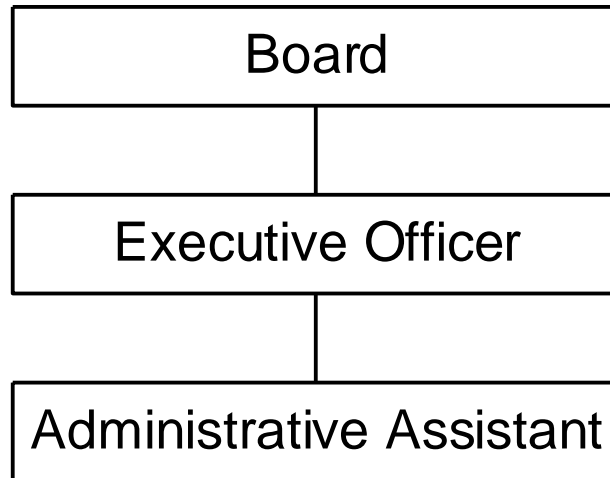
SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No current significant issues.

STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS/SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

There are no unresolved prior findings.

ORGANIZATION



PERSONNEL

Title	Number	Race	Gender	Classification
Executive Officer	1	White	Female	Contract employee
Administrative Assistant	1	White	Female	Contract employee
Total	2			

Legal Counsel

Matthew L. Beam, Deputy Attorney General, contract employee, serves as legal counsel for the board.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Number of Licensees per Employee as of July 2011 - 499

Number of Persons per Licensee in Alabama and Surrounding States

	Population *	Licensees	Persons Per Licensee
Alabama	4,779,736	997	4,794
Florida	18,801,310	4,484	4,193
Georgia	9,687,653	2,142	4,523
Mississippi	2,967,297	398	7,456
Tennessee	6,346,105	1,891	3,356

* U.S. Census as of June 2010

Operating Disbursements per Licensee (2009-10) - \$151.00

Notification to Licensee of Board Decisions to Amend Administrative Rules

The board complied with notification procedures prescribed in the Administrative Procedure Act, which includes publication of proposed rules in the Administrative Monthly, and public hearings on proposed rules. Licensees are not specifically notified of proposed changes.

COMPLAINT HANDLING

The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 34-26-46 through 34-26-48 and *Board Rule* 750-X-5-.03 provide procedures for receipt, documentation and investigation of complaints against licensees and disciplinary actions.

Complaint Procedures

Initial Contact/Documentation	Complaints must be in writing, signed by the complainant and notarized. Upon inquiry a complaint form may be mailed to the complainant or printed from the board's website. The form can be returned to the board by regular mail. Recipients of services or other licensed psychologists may file a complaint. The complainant is notified of the receipt of the complaint. The complaint form is date-stamped upon receipt.
Anonymous Complaints	The board does not accept anonymous complaints.
Investigative Processes(s)	The executive officer appoints a board member or members to serve along with the executive officer and legal counsel on an investigative committee. The executive officer and legal counsel are non-voting members of the committee. The board may hire or use investigators. The licensee complained against is informed in writing as to the nature of the complaint and is given an opportunity to respond.
Probable Cause Determination	If the committee considers the complaint appropriate for investigation, it recommends a course of action determined on a case-by-case basis. If the written complaint has been investigated and deemed to be without merit, the licensee and the complainant are notified that there has been a finding of "no probable cause" and the file is closed. If the committee finds "probable cause," legal counsel proceeds with the filing of administrative charges and sets a formal hearing of the complaint by the board.

Resolution without formal Hearing	<p>After the filing of administrative charges, the licensee and the licensee's attorney, if represented by counsel, may meet with the board's attorney to determine whether a settlement of the complaint may be reached. The board's attorney is responsible for conducting settlement negotiations. If a settlement agreement is reached, a "Consent Agreement" is signed by the licensee. The agreement is reviewed by the full board during executive session. During a public meeting, the board votes to accept, reject or modify the agreement. If a final settlement is reached and signed by all parties, it is placed in the licensee's public discipline file at the board's office. The licensee's name will be included in the public cumulative list of disciplinary actions and will be reported to the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Board's Disciplinary Data Bank and other regulatory agencies.</p>
Formal Hearing	<p>If a formal hearing is conducted, the following procedures are observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A notice of the administrative complaint including the statement of charges, notice of hearing and explanation of rights is sent in writing to the last known address of the licensee. The complaint is forwarded by certified mail, return receipt requested. • The licensee complained against is given a minimum of twenty days prior written notice of the hearing of the complaint before the board and is notified of the charge, and the date, time and location of the hearing. • A transcript of the hearing is officially recorded by a court reporter. • The licensee may at all times be represented or may waive this right. • At the hearing, either the full board or the board appointed hearing officer hears the case. If the board hears the case, a quorum of the board must be present at the hearing. • The board member(s) who assisted with the investigation of the complaint does not participate in the deliberations of the board and does not vote on the disciplinary action to be taken.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the board appoints a hearing officer, the hearing officer has the authority to determine pre-hearing matters such as motions, subpoenas, etc., and to preside over the hearing and make recommendations to the board. After a review of all the evidence, the board votes to determine whether violations of the law and/or rules and regulations have occurred. If the board finds the administrative charges were proven against the licensee, the board determines the discipline to be imposed. A formal vote on the discipline occurs during a public session. The board issues a final order that contains the findings of fact and conclusions of law pertinent to the case.
Notification of Resolution to the Complainant	Any disciplinary action adjudged appropriate by the board shall be forwarded via certified mail to the licensee and complainant within thirty days following the final order by the board. The licensee's name will be included in the public cumulative list of disciplinary actions (maintained by the board) and will be reported to the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Board's Disciplinary Data Bank and other regulatory agencies.

	Schedule of Complaints Resolved 2007 through 2010					
Year/Number Received	Year/Number Resolved					Pending
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
2007 /12	10	2				
2008 / 13		11	2			
2009 /13			7	6		
2010 /11				10		1*

*Pending appeal by licensee

Source of data: Administrative Assistant

Average Time to Resolve Complaints – 71 days

REGULATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER ENTITIES

There is no direct shared regulation of psychologists with other entities; however, Alabama licenses and regulates the professional practice of social workers, psychiatrists, counselors, and marriage and family therapists, who may lawfully engage in the practices of psychology incidental to their own professional practices.

SMART GOVERNING

2010 SMART Quarterly Performance Report

GOALS			COMMENTS	
Upgrade the Board's website to provide additional information for consumers of psychological services and licensees.			Goal is not measurable and is a statement of work rather than a performance goal. The goal has no specified date for its accomplishment. Performance goals should be measurable and should address how well an activity is carried out, should have a stated level of performance, and should have a stated target date of accomplishment.	
OBJECTIVES	UNIT OF MEASURE	PERFORMANCE TARGET	REPORTED PERFORMANCE	COMMENTS
To spend no more than \$5000 to upgrade the website.	Total dollars spent	5,000	\$149,929	The objective does not address how well an activity is done. The Reported Performance appears to be the total of board disbursements rather than the amount spent upgrading the website.

2011 SMART Quarterly Performance Report

GOALS			COMMENTS	
To process 910 renewals			The goal is a statement of normal work rather than a performance goal. The goal has no specified date for its accomplishment. Performance goals should be measurable and should address how well an activity is carried out, should have a stated level of performance, and should have a stated long-term target date of accomplishment.	
OBJECTIVES	UNIT OF MEASURE	PERFORMANCE TARGET	REPORTED PERFORMANCE	COMMENTS
To increase number of renewals completed by staff.	Renewal applications	910	*	The goal and the objective are the same. There is no target amount of increase for the year. Reported performance will not show whether an increase occurred

* Annualized performance data had not been reported at the time this report was prepared.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Source of funds

The board's operating funds are derived from licensing and regulatory fees, which are deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of Special Revenue Fund Number 0406, the Board of Examiners in Psychology Fund. The fund is authorized by *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 34-26-43.

Schedule of Fees

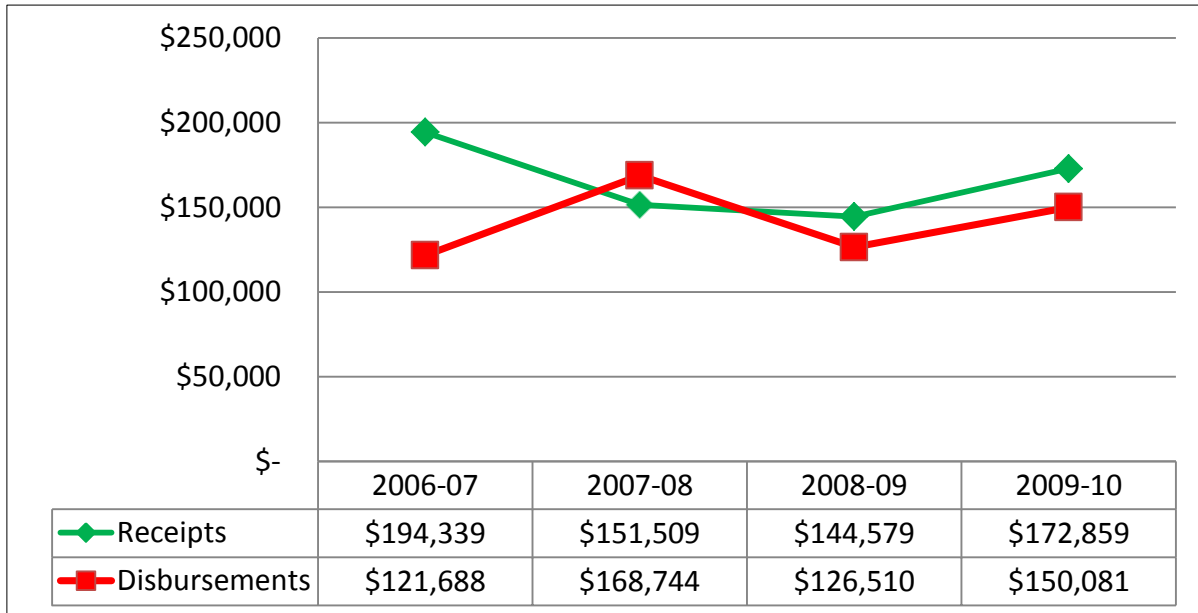
FEE TYPE/PURPOSE	STATUTORY AUTHORITY	ADMINISTRATIVE RULE	AMOUNT AUTHORIZED	AMOUNT COLLECTED
Application Fee	34-26-43	750-X-2.03	Up to \$200	\$200.00
Application Fee (PT)	34-26-43	750-X-2A-.03	Up to \$140	\$130.00
Prof. Standard Exam	34-26-43.1	750-X-3-.01	Actual Cost	\$50.00
Renewal Fee	34-26-22 (a)	750-X-4.01	Up to \$150.00	\$100.00
Renewal Fee (PT)	34-26-22 (a)	750-X-4-.01	Up to \$100.00	\$65.00
Continuing Education Fee	34-26-22 (b)	750-X-3A-.06	"Reasonable Fee"	\$50.00
Roster of Licensees	34-26-22 (a)	Appendix I	"Nominal Charge"	\$12.00
Roster of Licensees (PT)	34-26-22 (a)	Appendix I	"Nominal Charge"	\$10.00
Replacement Certificate		Appendix I	Cost Recovery	\$15.00
Mailing Labels		Appendix I	"Nominal Charge"	\$15.00
Copy of Rules and Regulations		Appendix I	Cost Recovery	\$10.00
Renewal Card Replacement		Appendix I	Cost Recovery	\$5.00

Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements, and Balances

October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2010

	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-2007
<u>Receipts</u>				
License Fees	\$172,858.75	\$144,579.00	\$151,508.78	\$194,339.16
<u>Disbursements</u>				
Personnel	51,140.08	54,243.79	57,493.99	63,120.44
Employee Benefits	3,912.21	4,149.66	4,398.29	4,828.69
Travel In State	3,751.55	3,927.09	5,432.81	3,357.20
Travel Out- of- State	2,787.94	2,105.67	4,356.54	4,553.63
Repairs and Maintenance	1,272.99	892.00	1,145.22	648.00
Rentals and Leases	11,517.00	11,517.00	11,517.00	10,354.80
Utilities and Communication	5,547.98	4,821.87	5,040.23	6,245.82
Professional Services	63,691.33	37,721.32	71,207.20	21,845.82
Supplies and Operating Expenses	6,459.96	7,131.79	8,152.43	6,734.07
Total	150,081.04	126,510.19	168,743.71	121,688.47
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts Over Disbursements	22,777.71	18,068.81	(17,234.93)	72,650.69
Cash Balances at Beginning of Year	268,490.55	250,421.74	267,656.67	195,005.98
Cash Balances at End of Year	291,268.26	268,490.55	250,421.74	267,656.67
Reserved for Unpaid Obligations	(7,865.75)	(11,103.65)	(16,801.45)	(13,027.16)
Unreserved Cash Balance at End of Year	\$283,402.51	\$257,386.90	\$233,620.29	\$254,629.51

Operating Receipts vs. Operating Disbursements (Chart)



QUESTIONNAIRES

Board Member Questionnaire

Questionnaires were sent to all seven members of the Board of Examiners of Psychology of which five responded. The percentages shown are based on the number who responded to the question.

1. What are the most significant issues currently facing the Board of Examiners in Psychology and how is the board addressing these issues?

Respondent 1: 1) Unnecessary schism between the Board and the Alabama Psychological Association (APA). The Board and APA have agreed to find ways to work together whenever possible, including having the Board's administrative director consult with APA as they try to develop a new psychology practice act. 2) Need for stronger laws to protect the practice of psychology. While the Board could not support the new practice act that was proposed this year, we support its intent which is to strengthen the Board in its efforts to protect the public and to protect the practice of psychology from infringement by other professional groups and non-professionals.

Respondent 2: I am not aware of any issues. All issues if any have been addressed to my knowledge.

Respondent 3: None known.

Respondent 4: Distinguishing Psychology from other mental health professions and better protecting the public.

Respondent 5: Will be hiring a new executive officer and currently have a candidate that most of us have agreed on.

2. What changes to the Board of Examiners in Psychology's laws are needed?

Respondent 1: We need to be able to protect the intellectual property and trade secrets of psychological testing by making it illegal to provide copyrighted test protocols, or their contents, to non-psychologists. The Board needs more control over administrative issues, including the ability to raise fees as needed. The Board should be able to issue writs of mandamus to stop those people who are practicing psychology illegally. Due process for violation of licensing law need to be clearly spelled out in the law with penalties specified in the law. Continuing education opportunities be expanded to include training "relevant to the practice of psychology." The composition of the Board should be simplified to include 4 Alabama licensed psychologists, 1 public member, and 1 licensed psychological technician. The Board needs to be able to conduct or have conducted background checks on all applicants. The law needs to more clearly define

Board Member Questionnaire

"psychologist" and "the practice of psychology" keeping it more in line with other jurisdictions and the Model Law of the American Psychological Association. To increase the penalties for those who attempt to practice psychology without a license.

Respondent 2: Jurisdiction licensing from other states, and authority to promote change.

Respondent 3: None known.

Respondent 4: Need provision for visiting professionals especially in disaster situations. Need ability to have stronger sanctions towards those who are not licensed as well as those who are.

Respondent 5: Increase in fees for offenses less confusion in general need inactive status for licensure need ability to raise licensure fees if needed.

3. Is the Board of Examiners in Psychology adequately funded?

Yes	3	60.0%
Unknown	2	40.0%

Respondent 1: I am relatively new to the Board and do not have knowledge of its finances.

4. Is the Board of Examiners in Psychology adequately staffed?

Yes	5	100.0%
No	0	0.0%

5. Does the board receive regular reports on the operations of the board from the chief administrative officer?

Yes	4	80.0%
Unknown	1	20.0%

Respondent 2: Only receive minutes and information on hearings. No information is provided on the daily operations of the office.

6. Has the board experienced any significant changes to its operations?

Yes	2	40.0%
No	3	60.0%

Respondent 1: Our administrative officer has chosen to not renew her contract and we are in the midst of trying to find a replacement.

Board Member Questionnaire

Respondent 5: New executive officer will be starting.

7. Does the Board of Examiners in Psychology plan any significant changes to its operations?

Yes	2	40.0%
No	1	20.0%
Unknown	2	40.0%

Respondent 1: Please see above. While no specific changes are planned in structure or function, having a new administrative officer will present some challenges. I am hoping the a new licensing act is passed next year with recommendations from the board that will allow us to operate more effectively.

Respondent 2: The current Executive Officer will be relocating. A new Executive Officer will be hired soon.

Psychologist Licensee Questionnaire

Questionnaires were sent to one hundred licensees of which thirty one responded. The percentages shown are based on the number responded to the question.

1. Do you think regulation of your profession by the Board of Examiners in Psychology is necessary to protect public welfare?

Yes	31	100.0%
No	0	0.0%

Respondent 7: Untrained, unqualified, unregulated persons providing psychological services can do more harm than good. If you need training and a license to cut hair on the outside of someone's head, you certainly should need training and a license to work on what's inside their head.

Respondent 21: Every year, several PhD level psychologists are barred from practice by the American Psychological Association. These are probably the worst cases, but we all recognize that there are a substantial number of charlatans without doctoral degrees who seek to gain money from troubled individuals or to misuse patients in other ways. The Board of Examiners is a necessary institution that protects the public and helps practicing psychologists maintain their continuing education efforts, much as physicians must do in accord with the medical licensing board.

Respondent 22: I greatly value the work of the Board of Examiners in maintaining standards for psychologists, to protect the public and promote the public welfare.

Respondent 23: Particularly for psychological & neuropsychological assessment and diagnosis, psychotherapy, industrial/organizational consultation, and forensic consultation.

Respondent 24: For those who think otherwise, read the briefs on those who have had their license revoked.

Respondent 28: Extremely important.

Respondent 29: Absolutely 100% - I also think that the licensure law revision that was introduced in the 2011 regular session was a very big step in the right direction. I have testified at numerous sunset review committee meetings in past years, and will be happy to appear again. Our law needs revision in several areas to protect the public, such as 1. felony level classification of the offense of practicing psychology without a license. 2. Require the law to reflect the procedural change suggested in #3 below. These comments reflect my opinions about needed changes. I am 100% clear and supportive of a vote by Sunset Review that ultimately reaffirms the existence of this vital Board.

2. Do you think any of the Board of Examiners in Psychology's laws, rules, and policies are an unnecessary restriction on the practice of your profession?

Yes	5	16.1%
No	24	77.4%
Unknown	2	6.5%

Respondent 7: Reexamine the passing score required for the licensing exam (EPPP). Requiring a score above the mean may be unnecessarily high when the mean is an average of PhD's taking the test. The passing criteria should be tied to empirically based criteria shown to demonstrate competent practice, not to normative based standards.

Respondent 15: Some of the penalties for violations appear to be too stiff and may discourage others from practicing, esp in a forensic setting where litigation is more prevalent.

Respondent 18: I have not experienced any of their work or actions as an unnecessary restriction. I think they do a fine job.

Respondent 22: No, I believe the rules and policies are fair and not at all restrictive to any competent and licensed professional.

Respondent 23: Probably too liberal in allowing undertrained and poorly educated individuals to qualify for licensure; e.g.; Psy.D. graduates from for-profit programs, Ed.D., from educational programs; standards for licensure should be raised not lowered.

Respondent 29: Only the in area of regulation of Court appointed psychologists- see # 3 below- Also, I am assuming that I have the normal constitutional protections that I can report my concerns without fear of reprisal. I want to also point out that my concern in this area is only with the Board Attorney and not with [REDACTED] or [REDACTED], who are my long term friends and professional peers. I will, of course, follow this report with additional reports to the Department, should such reprisal occur.

Respondent 31: Too much emphasis on specialty requirements; too stringent in requirements for supervision of master's level practitioners

3. Do you think any of the Board of Examiners in Psychology's requirements are irrelevant to the competent practice of your profession?

Yes	3	9.7%
No	27	87.1%
No Opinion	1	3.2%

Respondent 18: My work is so specialized that it would be unrealistic to expect all their requirements to be relevant to everyone. They have far more to do than examine

just one small area like my work. My "yes" response to this question is not a criticism of the Board, it's a reflection of how narrowly focused my work is.

Respondent 22: No, I believe the requirements are quite relevant for competent practitioners.

Respondent 29: I don't know if irrelevant is the right word, but I do feel strongly that the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology should follow the lead of many other jurisdictions and state licensure boards in one highly specialized area of practice. That area of practice is the review of complaints against licensed psychologists when those psychologists are court appointed by Alabama Circuit Courts to assist the Court in the areas of pre-divorce assessments (child custody evaluations) and post-divorce services (Parenting Coordination, parental evaluations). I have performed well over 1,000 such evaluations in the past 25 years. I have never sought out a referral in this area. I am consistently Court appointed by Circuit Judges throughout Alabama to serve as a court appointed professional to assist that Court with certain questions and functions. I have also been a national leader in this area with over a dozen publications in national peer reviewed journals. I serve on the editorial board of the Journal of Child Custody. I have been appointed by the Alabama State Bar and the current Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court to serve on state wide commissions to lead our state in reforms in these very areas. I have petitioned the Board about my recommendations, but their response was that they did not feel that such reform as needed. Here is the problem in a stepwise nutshell: 1. An Alabama Psychologist receives court appointment from an Alabama Judge to perform a certain evaluation needed by the Court. 2. The psychologist performs the evaluation. (Note: these evaluations occur in an environment that is frequently very adversarial). 3. One party doesn't agree with or like the results and files a frivolous complaint with the goal of turfing the expert, or getting the psychologist removed from the case. 4. The Board receives the case and appoints an expert to review the case that does not have expertise in the area of forensic family law and gives the Board essentially bad advice about how to proceed with disciplining the psychologist. SOLUTION- My suggested solution for years now follows a national trend that is supported by national organizations who understand the very specialized knowledge in this area- The suggestion is REQUIRE THE COMPLAINT TO 1ST BE REVIEWED BY THE COURT OF JURISDICTION, THE JUDGE WHO APPOINTED THE PSYCHOLOGIST AND WHO IS IN THE VERY BEST POSITION TO EVALUATE THE CLAIM. IF THE JUDGE WHO APPOINTED THE PSYCHOLOGIST FINDS NO FAULT, THE COMPLAINT ENDS, except that the aggrieved part could appeal to the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals. Short of this requirement, which may be the subject of proposed legislation by the Supreme Court Commission, the Board should be required to use an expert in child custody matters rather than using an expert with no forensic expertise, as has been done in the past. I am actively leading an Alabama Supreme Court Committee's efforts to push legislation for a Parenting Coordination statute that will be ready for the 2012 regular session. This legislation will include the above provision and has the support of the 2 Alabama Supreme Court Commissions where I continue to serve. I am a past Member and Chair of the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology (1996-2002). I am a past President of the Alabama

Licensee Questionnaire

Psychological Association. I am a current nominee to the Ethics Committee of the American Psychological Association. I feel strongly that the above proposal would greatly assist all Alabama children of divorce, all divorcing families, and all Alabama Psychologists. I have spoken with Judges all over the State of Alabama who bemoan the fact that they cannot find any psychologists who will serve as court appointed experts to assist the Court. The above proposal would help open the door for appropriate protection of practitioners from frivolous complainants whose only goal is to manipulate the Court. Without such a change, the Alabama Board unwittingly assists those who attempt to thwart justice. References Kirkland, K. & Ritter, A. (2011). Parenting Coordination in Alabama: The Current Status, *Faulkner Law Review*, 2, (2), 247-285. Kirkland, K., (2008). Parenting Coordination (PC) Laws, Rule, & Regulations: A Jurisdictional comparison. *Journal of Child Custody*, 25, I love and respect my Alabama Board, but without this type modification, I do not feel that practitioners are adequately, fairly, and objectively evaluated and therefore could have their own due process rights violated. More importantly, without such modification of rules and procedures in this one area, the Board cannot possibly protect the rights of the children of divorce without unwittingly being manipulated by a parent with a vendetta. In all other areas, the requirements of the Board are relevant and necessary. Thank you, [REDACTED], PhD Alabama License # [REDACTED] Associate Professor of Medicine [REDACTED] - Montgomery President, Clinical & Forensic Psychologists, [REDACTED] & [REDACTED].

4. Are you adequately informed by the Board of Examiners in Psychology of changes to and interpretations of board position, policies, rules and laws?

Yes	18	58.1%
No	6	19.4%
Unknown	6	19.4%
No Opinion	1	3.2%

Respondent 9: I'm not sure on this one - I can't remember any such communication.

Respondent 14: As far as I know.

Respondent 15: Would like a quarterly newsletter or more info on the website

Respondent 18: I have no reason to suspect that they don't notify us in a timely manner of changes in their policies, etc. I've never had a problem with them of this nature.

Respondent 21: The Board informs its members through mailings of the changes noted above. My only suggestion is that the Board should consider sending these changes and other information by e-mail as well as (or in place of) US mail.

Respondent 22: The Board Newsletters are timely and informative.

Respondent 23: Generally yes, though as an out-of-state licensee I would like more information regarding changes in laws, policies, etc in the biannual communication that I typically receive

Respondent 29: The erosion of trust and positive communication that currently exists would be greatly facilitated by open discussion of all the issues raised in this report. In March of 2010, I wrote a very lengthy letter to the Board about my concerns about the way the Board currently handles complaints against psychologists in family court appointed cases. I have been the national researcher who has led research efforts that shows that this is a national issue: psychologists accept court appointed work in our nation's family courts face exponentially higher risks for civil lawsuits and board complaints. Those of us who practice in this area in Alabama have gone from feeling that the Board was willing to stay highly informed in this very specialized area of practice to the current practice of using experts who do not have specific expertise in forensic family law, but who only have expertise in general counseling. This procedural error, in my opinion, has led to faulty direction to the Board as a whole, which led to an inappropriate outcome, in my opinion, in 1 case in 2010. The national data I collected (Kirkland & Kirkland, 2001- Professional Psychology- Research & Practice) {article available upon request} demonstrated the depth of this problem a decade ago. In this study we survey all ASPPB member boards and found that there was a huge problem facing licensure boards- very high frequencies of complaints but very low levels of findings. Our data showed that there was a need for a national policy change in this area a full decade ago. When I encountered frivolous board complaints in the past as an Alabama practitioner, my case file was assigned to a forensic psychology expert (██████████, PhD, ABPP) who reviewed the case and interviewed me at the time. I believe that there is an absolute requirement for the Board to have a requirement in rules and regs that a forensic expert with family law experience be required to be used as the expert consultant in these cases. Numerous other states have this requirement. I have the data about jurisdictional comparisons in this area if needed.

5. Has the Board of Examiners in Psychology performed your licensing and renewal in a timely manner?

Yes	31	100.0%
No	0	0.0%

Respondent 18: They've done consistent good work for decades in my case.

Respondent 21: I find the Board to be very efficient and extremely helpful. Although the Board is open daily only during the morning hours, staff are very willing to discuss issues and provide clarifying information by phone. The staff has always been exceptionally helpful to me and I trust them and their assistance completely.

Respondent 22: I have been a licensed psychologist in Alabama for over thirty years and the licensing and renewal process has always been timely and efficient.

Respondent 23: Extremely prompt.

Respondent 24: This is always on time, every year, for the past 11 years.

Respondent 29: Always.

6. Do you consider mandatory continuing education necessary for competent practice?

Yes	29	93.5%
No	2	6.5%

Respondent 2: Professionals will stay current on developments in their respective fields. Often I get credit that is convenient and cheap rather than relevant. There is little offered in the field of IO psychology.

Respondent 7: But I suggest we earn and count our CE credits every two years instead of every year, such as many other states already do.

Respondent 21: The practice of clinical psychology is moving, just as the field of medicine is moving, to acceptance of evidence-based procedures. It is necessary for psychologists to demonstrate continued training in order to best serve the public. Even though I now am involved only in clinical research (and no longer see patients on a fee for service basis), I very much appreciate that I must maintain my training in order to function at the highest level possible.

Respondent 22: Continuing education is very important for competent practice and should definitely remain a requirement.

Respondent 23: But the CE providers typically provide substantially sub-average education; e.g., how many lectures do I really need about depression, anxiety disorders, ADHD, etc. If I don't know the information by the time I have completed my training, I shouldn't be licensed to practice. There needs to be more education regarding advances in the neurological and biological aspects of mental health, brain imaging research, cultural aspects of psychology, and the controversies in the development of the DSM-V

Respondent 27: GA has a better model.

Respondent 29: ABSOLUTELY, and the Board was very responsive several years ago when I asked that the Board consider allowing credit to CE applicants who are the professionals who are themselves the presenter of the CE workshop.

7. Has the Board of Examiners in Psychology approved sufficient providers of continuing education to ensure your reasonable access to necessary continuing education hours?

Yes	28	90.3%
Unknown	2	6.5%
No Opinion	1	3.2%

Respondent 21: Yes. However, those of us who are involved in clinical medical research, obtain continuing education at medical conferences that award CME credit to both physicians or psychologists. The Board of Examiners is willing to accept education credits for portions of the educational program with obvious relevance to psychology. However, it will not provide credits for educational programs concerning basic science. I would like to see the Board consider providing credits for basic science learning if the learning experience is relevant to the psychologist in question. For example, I am a full professor of medicine at a university but I cannot obtain credit for education in medical basic science.

Respondent 22: Never a problem.

Respondent 23: It is not the quantity but the quality of CE that is provided.

Respondent 29: Absolutely!

Respondent 31: Too many required documents to prove a session is appropriate; for example should be approved if approved by another profession such as medicine or social work.

8. What do you think is the most significant issue(s) currently facing your profession in Alabama and what is the Board of Examiners in Psychology doing to address the issue(s)?

Respondent 1: Unlicensed practice. I do not think the board takes an aggressive enough approach

Respondent 2: Unknown

Respondent 3: Reimbursement rates. Nothing. Not their function.

Respondent 4: No opinion.

Respondent 5: Board of Examiners in Psychology does not believe it should address, make known, bring attention to, advocate, take any action regarding any issues/challenges/impediments to profession of psychology and so it does not. In fact, board avoids taking any actions that may be perceived as such. Board believes board

actions must be limited to and cannot go beyond the implementation and enforcement of rules & regs that are currently in place. (Think hall monitor)

Respondent 6: No comment.

Respondent 7: Issue: cutbacks in funding for mental health services and reimbursements. What is the Board doing about it: nothing that I know of. But I am not sure they can, under the law. That is for the professional associations to do.

Respondent 8: Psychologists provide important and necessary services to children and families going thru divorce. More and more psychologists are refusing to be involved in these often time volatile cases because of actions brought against them to the Board of Examiners by a disgruntled parent. In the real world, it is often impossible to provide good service and stick perfectly to the 'letter of the law.' Psychologist have been penalized even though it seems that they were acting in accord with the 'spirit of the law.' If Alabama psychologists are to continue providing care to individuals in divorce situations, the Board of Examiners will need to find a balance that is clearly articulated between the letter and the spirit of the law that protects both consumers and providers of care.

Respondent 9: Prescribing privileges for psychologists and I am not aware of any action of the board on this matter.

Respondent 10: Most significant issue are related to health care costs and making sure clients are not lost in the system.

Respondent 11: Dominance of BCBS.....unless you are with Alabama Psychiatric....you are considered out of network. Consequently, most AL psychologists are out of network for BCBS which covers over 80% of Alabama citizens. Also concerning that community mental health centers essentially exclude psychologists in south Alabama. There are none on staff. Private practice is about the only option in south Alabama for those that work with children.

Respondent 12: Third party reimbursement rates.

Respondent 13: Continued comprehensive and progressive involvement by its members.

Respondent 14: Protection of the public - ~unlicensed practitioners ~threats to lower standards.

Respondent 15: Protect the public from unlicensed individuals and clearly define scope of practice for psychologists, what we can and cannot do.

Respondent 16: There are not enough psychologists practicing in rural and low income areas. I'm not sure what the board is doing about it.

Respondent 17: Medication prescribing privileges for psychologists. Do not know.

Respondent 18: Assuring that psychologists with licenses are competent. Evaluating new applicants and evaluating current psychologists when there are problems.

Respondent 19: Unsure at this time. I am newly licensed and am not sure what issues the Board of Examiners is involved in addressing.

Respondent 20: Regulation of non doctoral level professionals and/or otherwise inadequately trained persons providing psychological services. Board is likely not doing too much in that area.

Respondent 21: I think that the Board is doing a very good job of regulating entrance to the profession of psychology, which is critical to ensuring that psychologists will be reimbursed by third-party payers. However, the role of psychologists in medicine is expanding, as I have noted above, and the Board should consider how to respond to this expansion and provide the best possible access to educational programs that will help psychologists maintain and improve their skills through-out the course of their professional careers.

Respondent 22: I think one of the most significant issues is the frequent attempts by unqualified persons to function as a psychologist, without the necessary training or education. The Board of Examiners is diligent in their maintenance of standards for the profession, and thus for protection of the public from unqualified persons.

Respondent 23: Prescription privileges for psychologists, not aware of the Board's position.

Respondent 24: Unknown.

Respondent 25: Declining insurance reimbursement rates by major insurance carriers in this state. I don't know what the board is doing about this, if anything.

Respondent 26: None known

Respondent 27: Need to stop licensing people from distance learning schools. They are not prepared for competent practice.

Respondent 28: Not sure if it's a board issue but there are many other disciplines that are practicing within our area that do things that are not under their licensing.

Respondent 29: Many leading practitioners throughout the state are concerned about #3 above, and believe that a true trust and communication problem has developed that ultimately impacts the consumer. As a former Board Member and Chair, I truly understand that the Board is a part of the Executive Branch of our state government and

exists to protect the public. There is a difference between healthy respect for the Board, which I believe has heretofore existed, supplemented by plenty of healthy dialogue that has eroded. For example, the Board formerly presented a very popular forum discussion and interactive time with practitioners at the annual meeting of the Alabama Psychological Assn. This no longer occurs. There has been much erosion of trust and communication between the Association and the Board. The Board exists to protect the public. However, the Board also has a responsibility to the profession to insure that the public can continue to benefit from a viable and growing profession. We are a very small state with a gross shortage of care providers in every area of psychology and primary care medicine. I believe that a public relations effort to repair any such communication rifts would be in the best interest of the State of Alabama's citizens without compromising the protective functions of the Board. I have only been licensed in 1 state- Alabama- for my entire practice career- for the past 31 years. I love my profession and I respect my Board 100%. I believe that my suggestions are valid and need to be implemented. But, and I would have never thought that I would feel this way...that I don't feel entirely comfortable voicing my opinions, i.e., I am not sure that there won't be some consequence for my frank discussion of my concerns in this report....and here's why... When I wrote the Board a letter much like this report in March of 2010, I got a "warning call" from the Alabama Chief Justice's office informing me that the Board Attorney was requesting a meeting with our Chief Justice to complain about my proposal and/or check out the veracity of myself report in my letter. Apparently, he was unaware of my lengthy service on 2 current Supreme Court Commissions in this very area and that such a warning call would come to me prior to his meeting. While I was assured that the visit would be seen for what it was and what it appeared to me to be herein lies the board's public relations problem and erosion of trust with the profession. The true question is...will I get a call for this report of that incident?? Time will tell. Therefore another suggestion that I share with many former Board Members is that the Board should use attorneys from the Attorney General's office of staff attorneys who routinely learn the ropes of administrative law in Alabama by serving as Board Attorneys, rather than the Board contracting with a private attorney. There is a huge trust problem in this area. This is a very widely held perception as indicated that a large group of practitioners, many former board members and stalwart leaders, requested an audience with the Board. This was really about the issues addressed above. If these practitioners are ill informed, then the perception and public relations issue needs to be addressed because the issue affects the health and integrity of the profession, which in turn affects the availability and quality of service to the public. My suggestion is that if the perception cannot be addressed or fixed, then the answer is to insure that new counsel for the Board is in put into place. it is vital that the office of counsel to the Board have no agenda other than being legal consultant to the Board. The time for any agenda other than appropriate protection of the public is long past due.

Respondent 30: A big problem is lack of choice of care. Many insurers are using an HMO or self funded approach to bypass insurance regulatory laws so they can deny mental health coverage. I would like to see this problem tackled more aggressively.

Respondent 31: Access to health care for people with no health insurance.

9. Do you think the Board of Examiners in Psychology and its staff are satisfactorily performing their duties?

Yes	28	90.3%
No	1	3.2%
Unknown	2	6.5%

Respondent 7: The Board and especially the Board's permanent support staff take their responsibilities very seriously, work very hard, and should be commended.

Respondent 9: Whenever i need anything they are very receptive and assist me with speed and accuracy. Whenever I need anything they are very receptive and assist me with speed and accuracy

Respondent 11: But some of the support staff are difficult to deal with and, frankly, are just downright unfriendly

Respondent 18: The Board staff are consistently responsive to inquiries and requests for information and have been for many years. I appreciate their work and thoughtful responses.

Respondent 20: Within the confines of the rules as they are.

Respondent 21: See all comments above.

Respondent 22: Definitely.

Respondent 23: Always responsive, prompt, and accurate

Respondent 29: I have no questions or doubts about [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] [REDACTED], both of whom are friends, long term peers, and people who I respect. Many practitioners share my opinion. If I am mistaken, I gladly stand corrected but still feel that proper public relations and communication should occur to fix these perceptions. On the other hand, if my perceptions are correct, then changes should be made. Either way, the rules and procedural changes suggested above in the areas of court appointed work, in my opinion, need to occur. And let me say under oath, that I have discussed these specific recommendations in the form of proposed legislation, in a committee meeting of which I am a member, Chaired by [REDACTED] [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Univ of Alabama School of Law, also attended by our Chief Justice, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in which the entire Committee, which also includes former and current domestic relations judges and family lawyers, and that these specific proposals were supported fully by the committee. This Supreme Court Committee plans to introduce legislation in several areas in the 2012 session, including legislations enabling private domestic judges and enabling legislation that would be a Parenting Coordination statute that would also

address the procedural changes suggested above. This would have the full support of this AOC- Supreme Court Committee. Hopefully, it will also have the support of the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology.

10. Has any member of the Board of Examiners in Psychology or its staff asked for money (other than normal fees), services, or any other thing of value in return for performing a board service for you?

Yes	0	0.0%
No	31	100.0%

Respondent 7: Absolutely not, and I never have heard of them asking any psychologist or applicant for any money except the normal fees.

Respondent 18: They've never asked me for money or any other thing of value and no other psychologist has ever indicated to me that they've done anything like this. I'm surprised to be asked.

Respondent 21: The Board and its staff members are true professionals and have always behaved as dedicated, true professionals should.

Respondent 22: Never.

Respondent 24: The staff has always been professional and friendly.

Psychological Technician Licensee Questionnaire

Questionnaires were sent to thirty one licensees of which eight responded. The percentages shown are based on the number who responded to the question.

1. Do you think regulation of your profession by the Board of Examiners in Psychology is necessary to protect public welfare?

Yes	8	100.0%
No	0	0.0%

2. Do you think any of the Board of Examiners in Psychology's laws, rules and policies are an unnecessary restriction on the practice of your profession?

Yes	2	25.0%
No	6	75.0%

Respondent 4: I do think that at some point my license should be equivalent to, and competitive with, the licenses of social workers and lpc's. I am highly trained and competent, I have been in the field for 22 years, yet will never be able to offer counseling independently with this license. If I hadn't loved psychology so much I would have become a professional counselor or a social worker.

3. Do you think any of the Board of Examiners in Psychology's requirements are irrelevant to the competent practice of your profession?

Yes	1	12.5%
No	7	87.5%

Respondent 4: They make it very hard to get the license. I believe that is why there are so few technicians. Even the name is misleading. Hospital psych techs don't have master's degrees. No one even knows what we are really. I have progressed to my third job since having the license. Only one job knew what a psych tech was and that was because they were going through joint commission cert. and were very keen on the fact that I was licensed. I have one friend that just gave the license up to become an lpc. It's hard won and pretty useless professionally.

4. Are you adequately informed by the Board of Examiners in Psychology of changes to and interpretations of board positions, policies, rules and laws?

Yes	7	87.5%
No Opinion	1	12.5%

5. Has the Board of Examiners in Psychology performed your licensing and renewal in a timely manner?

Yes	7	87.5%
No	1	12.5%

Respondent 3: They only meet every two months, which means a minimum of four months before one can be licensed after application is made. That's a long time before one can even apply for jobs using psychology in their title, per state laws and guidelines.

Respondent 4: They are very well organized.

6. Do you consider mandatory continuing education necessary for competent practice?

Yes	8	100.0%
No	0	0.0%

7. Has the Board of Examiners in Psychology approved sufficient providers of continuing education to ensure your reasonable access to necessary continuing education hours?

Yes	7	87.5%
Unknown	1	12.5%

8. What do you think is the most significant issue(s) currently facing your profession in Alabama and what is the Board of Examiners in Psychology doing to address the issue(s)?

Respondent 1: n/a

Respondent 2: Lack of access to quality mental health care for the poor due to insurance regulations, lack of prescription privileges for psychologists in Alabama - Do not believe the Board is involved in any efforts to change these issues.

Respondent 3: n/a. I've never worked in Alabama. I applied for licensure because my husband had a job offer there. However, he ended up not accepting the offer, which meant we did not move there as was planned. We both accepted jobs in another state. I had already completed my application for licensure in Alabama, so I'm technically licensed there, even though I've never worked there.

Respondent 4: Losing business to licensed practice counselors and social workers because I don't believe the board or the Ph'd's and Psy.d's ever wanted to license us in the first place.

Respondent 5: Prescriptive authority. I don't know if the Board of Examiners is addressing the issue.

Respondent 6: Coverage by insurance companies, sufficient

Respondent 7: Biggest issue is probably reimbursement for services from insurance companies; however, I don't believe this is an area where the Board can really help.

Respondent 8: Increase in demand for mental health services. Limited reimbursement sources for services. Participate in the effort to lobby for MH inclusion in state budgetary considerations.

9. Do you think the Board of Examiners in Psychology and its staff are satisfactorily performing their duties?

Yes	7	87.5%
No Opinion	1	12.5%

10. Has any member of the Board of Examiners in Psychology or its staff asked for money (other than normal fees), services, or anything of value in return for performing a board service for you?

Yes	0	0.0%
No	8	100.0%

Complainant Questionnaire

Questionnaires were sent to forty-two complainants, of which fourteen responded. The percentages shown are based on the number who responded to the question.

1. Was your complaint filed with the Board of Examiners in Psychology by:

Mail	13	92.9%
Other	1	7.1%

Respondent 3: sent certified mail / receipt return 10/29/09 and received by Board of Examiners in Psychology on 10/30/2009

Respondent 6: Complaint against [REDACTED] [REDACTED] of Birmingham sent via Federal Express

Respondent 7: It was filed by phone and by mail

2. Was receipt of your complaint promptly acknowledged?

Yes	12	85.7%
No	2	14.3%

Respondent 3: letter dated 11/2/09 - sent certified mail 11/3/09 acknowledged receipt of complaint and stated Investigation Committee appointed

Respondent 7: It was acknowledged

3. If yes, approximately how long after you filed your complaint were you contacted by the Board of Examiners in Psychology?

Unknown	4	28.6%
Immediately	1	7.1%
Within 10 days	3	21.4%
Within 20 days	1	7.1%
Within 30 days	3	21.4%
More than 30 days	2	14.3%

Respondent 9: Responded so quickly I am sure they did not have time to investigate The complaint thoroughly.

Respondent 13: I think more than 30 days, I would have to check my records.

4. Was the employee who responded to your complaint knowledgeable and courteous?

Neither	6	42.9%
Knowledgeable	1	7.1%
Courteous	4	28.6%
Unknown	3	21.4%

Respondent 3: Received a letter acknowledging receipt of my complaint so did not speak to anyone that date.

Respondent 8: Notified by letter.

Respondent 9: Never contacted by a person. All done by mail.

Respondent 12: VERY PROMPT, PROFESSIONAL

5. Did the Board of Examiners in Psychology communicate the results of investigating your complaint to you?

Yes	11	78.6%
No	3	21.4%

Respondent 7: I was very disappointed with the Board. The person who I complained about should have been reprimanded and I should have filed a law suit.

Respondent 9: See above.

Respondent 10: Sent a letter of the results.

Respondent 13: There was no investigation. My complaint had three parts. One was the licensee's failure to comply with a provision of the Alabama Code concerning the provision of records. I enclosed three emails documenting my request for the records for the Board but the ludicrous response I received was that there was no "probable cause".

Respondent 14: I was told that they did not find any wrongdoing that's all that was said.

6. Do you think the Board of Examiners in Psychology did everything it could to resolve your complaint?

Yes	1	7.1%
No	11	78.6%
Unknown	2	14.3%

Complainant Questionnaire

Respondent 6: The committee was in receipt of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] notes, conflicting diagnosis from other Dr's/child's school, Court documents from [REDACTED]/[REDACTED] Counties, a detailed deposition which she admitted to unprofessional behavior, over billing, was unfamiliarity with common psychology terms, instructing patient to discontinue prescription medication, treating additional family members under patient's name, various other admitted violations of her oath and scope of practice.

Respondent 7: I think the organization is useless. They did NOTHING to the person whom I complained about.

Respondent 8: I provided documentation, including findings by the U.S. Army Inspector General, that supported my ethics complaint. I also provided the names and contact information for 14 witnesses to the unethical behavior (including 2 board-certified psychiatrists and 4 psychologists) so that the board could conduct interviews to verify my allegations. The board informed me by letter that they had "investigated your complaint... and has found no probable cause for a disciplinary hearing and consider the case closed." Since I submitted documentation by the Army Inspector General that clearly demonstrated probable cause, it is unclear how the board determined a lack of probable cause. Furthermore, not one of the witnesses had been contacted by the board, so it is unclear to me how the allegations were "investigated." My impression is that the complaint, though well-documented, supported with data, and including a list of outraged professionals who were willing to testify to the allegations, had been summarily disregarded.

Respondent 9: I don't think it was investigated thoroughly.

Respondent 11: I provided the board with stacks of emails from the individual in which I filed the complaint against as well as a number of unbiased witnesses who had first hand knowledge of the numerous ethical violations that the person committed. These were not grey areas, this was blatant violation of several ethical standards that included several documented incidents of abusing subordinates. The board concluded that there was no reason to further investigate after the psychologist wrote a reply to my complaint. They didn't contact any of the witnesses and they did not ask this man to answer for e-mails sent to them, by me in which he was verbally abusing subordinates. I was later told by someone familiar with the board that they don't spend much time investigating psychologists if the complaints don't come from other psychologists.

Respondent 13: Absolutely not. I had contact, documented by email, with a character called [REDACTED] [REDACTED], supposedly the attorney for the Board. When I was notified the Board would not take any further action for lack of probable cause, I contacted him by phone. I informed him that unless he could provide information on why the Board would support a practitioner withholding records in contravention of the Alabama Code, at least one of my three complaints constituted probable cause on its face. His inane response to me was that this information was protected by the attorney client privilege. I have a law degree from Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham and considered his response highly unresponsive and evasive nonsense.

Respondent 14: I feel that they listen to the other person's side of the story and reached a conclusion.

7. Were you satisfied with your dealings with the Board of Examiners in Psychology?

No	11	78.6%
Yes	2	14.3%
Unknown	1	7.1%

Respondent 3: Felt like when they ask for information they don't really "read" everything. I provided quite a bit of information because I felt it was important for the committee to see, but got the feeling it was too messy and no one really wanted to be responsible for enforcing anything on this psychologist because it would make the attorneys and judge look bad because they had suggested this psychologist to work with my child. No one seemed to be concerned that this psychologist forced a child to see her abuser when my child stated she did not want to see him, plus this happened during the course of a criminal investigation pending before the grand jury. All it did was make matters worse for my child. It is also a shame a psychologist who is to have the child's best interest at heart can have very unconventional therapy methods that can scar a child even more than he/she is already scarred, and that because the psychologist is court ordered that psychologist can do what the judge wants her to do and not what is in the best interest of the child. It's a shame that our children suffer for the bad and unethical decisions of adult psychologists, attorneys and judges.

Respondent 5: The complaint was filed towards an incompetent, prejudiced person. She should have been disciplined and this was not done, as far as I know.

Respondent 6: The Board certainly had more than enough documentation against [REDACTED] to warrant the surrender of her license to practice. Someone really dropped the ball on this one.

Respondent 7: Very dissatisfied. The board appears like a useless organization. This is why people resort to suing Doctors in court.

Respondent 8: I have retained the documentation related to the complaint.

Respondent 9: Not sure.

Respondent 10: He is my statement concerning [REDACTED] [REDACTED], PhD. In October 2007, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], PhD was hired by [REDACTED] County DHR to ascertain whether my son was sexually, physically and/or mentally abused by his father. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] failed to contact any of the professionals who had filed a child abuse report on my son's behalf, nor did he document any of the abuse reported by professionals in his report that was presented to DHR. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had in his possession these documented reports and

Complainant Questionnaire

information of the child abuse on my son and spouse abuse by the hand of his father, my estranged husband. In his report, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] included invalid statements to support only negative information about me and included invalid statements to support only positive statements about the father. My son disclosed to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] that his father had abused him. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] presented this information in a way that it discredited my son's disclosure of abuse and diluted the consequences of his father's behavior toward his son. During my interview with [REDACTED] [REDACTED], I spoke in detail about the abuse I experienced at the hand of my husband as well as the abuse I witnessed to our son by his father. This information was not included in the report presented to [REDACTED] County DHR. Information provided by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] included misinterpretation of statements made by my son, as well as incorrect information regarding my son's test results. It is requested that this committee obtain the evaluation completed by [REDACTED] [REDACTED], in order to have a qualified unbiased party assess his data. It is also my belief that by not obtaining information by treating professionals involved in my son's case discouraged the court and DHR to take a closer look at this case which violates the best interest of my son. Finally, I am discouraged in the justice system when a practicing PhD can write a report that includes false statements of the information that was given to him. I feel this created a clearly questionable ethical issue in his involvement in this case.

Respondent 11: There was no investigation. I got a letter stating that their investigation concluded that there was no ethical misconduct. The problem with that is that they never conducted an investigation. They took what the accused said as fact and dismissed my complaint even though I had substantial evidence.

Respondent 13: Given the gravity and legitimacy of my complaints, I found the position of the Board as relayed by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to be untenable. I attempted to find out what I could about this individual and learned that at the time of my complaint he had a website soliciting lobbying work with the state. It is not difficult to construe that alternate agendas could possibly be in play when trying to evaluate [REDACTED] [REDACTED] perplexing and dismissive response. I stand by my original complaint completely and believe that [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s conduct certainly warrants further investigation and evaluation. In this regard I am happy to make myself available to the Committee. My name is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] MD. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Hoover, AL. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Email, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Thank you.

Respondent 14: Not at all, because there are children involved at Behavioral medicine. I went for help and the situation worsened and I could have been injured. The therapist did not display any concern, often sat with feet on top on desk in a very relaxed position. And he did not believe my side of the story. The therapist aim was to make my life miserable, displayed dislikes for me. My son also suffered emotional damage. The complaint was tossed aside.

APPENDICES

SMART Performance Reports

Thursday, November 18, 2010
EBO Form 10

FY 10 SMART Quarterly Performance Report

Page 2 of 3

Basic Agency

Agency: 331 - Psychology, Alabama Board of Examiners in				Program: 653 - PRO AND OCCU LICENSING AND REG								
Organization: -				Activity: -								
Key Goal:												
Goal 1	Upgrade the Board's website to provide additional information for consumers of psychological services and licensees.							Governor's Priority:		2		
Objectives and Quarterly Targets:												
Performance Measures		First Quarter		Second Quarter		Third Quarter		Fourth Quarter		Annual		
Objectives		Unit of Measure	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
(O1-Efficiency) To spend no more than \$5,000.00 to upgrade the website		Total dollars spent	--	29614	--	42846	--	46609	--	38570	5,000	149929

Tuesday, February 22, 2011
EBO Form 10

FY 11 SMART Quarterly Performance Report

Basic Agency

Page 2 of 2

Agency: 331 - Psychology, Alabama Board of Examiners in				Program: 653 - PRO AND OCCU LICENSING AND REG							
Organization: -				Activity: -							
Key Goal:											
Goal 1	To process 910 renewals								Governor's Priority:	2	
Objectives and Quarterly Targets:											
Performance Measures		First Quarter		Second Quarter		Third Quarter		Fourth Quarter		Annual	
Objectives	Unit of Measure	Target	Actual	Target	Actual*	Target	Actual*	Target	Actual*	Target	Actual*
(O1-Efficiency) Increase number of renewals completed by staff	Renewal application	900	41600	10		0		0		910	
* Actual performance data is not currently available for this quarter.											

Statutes

CHAPTER 26 PSYCHOLOGISTS

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

§ 34-26-1. Practice as "psychologist" and "psychological technician" defined.

(a) For the purposes of this chapter, the two levels of psychological practice are as follows:

(1) Psychologist.

(2) Psychological technician.

(b)(1) A person practices as a psychologist within the meaning of this chapter when he or she holds himself or herself out to be a psychologist or renders to individuals or to the public for remuneration any service involving the application of recognized principles, methods, and procedures of the science and profession of psychology, such as interviewing or administering and interpreting tests of mental abilities, aptitudes, interests, and personality characteristics for such purposes as psychological evaluation or for such purposes as overall personality appraisal or classification, or treatment. The practice of psychologists specifically includes the use of projective assessment techniques, the diagnosis of mental disorders, and psychotherapy.

(2) Nothing in this definition shall be construed as permitting the use of those forms of psychotherapy which involve the administration or prescription of drugs or electro-shock or in any way infringing upon the practice of medicine as defined in the laws of this state. A psychologist shall not attempt to diagnose, prescribe for, treat, or advise a client with reference to problems or complaints falling outside the boundaries of psychological practice.

(3) Nothing in this definition shall be construed as preventing qualified school counselors, vocational guidance counselors, vocational rehabilitation counselors, speech and hearing therapists, speech pathologists and audiologists, reading therapists, or teachers of exceptional children from rendering to the public for remuneration services for which they are qualified by training and experience involving the techniques of interviewing, administering, and interpreting tests of mental abilities, achievement, interests, and aptitudes for such purposes as evaluation or for educational or vocational guidance, selection, or placement. Nothing in this definition shall be construed as preventing technical and support staff from providing functions associated with psychological assessments under the supervision of a licensed psychologist.

(c)(1) A person practices as a "psychological technician" within the meaning of this chapter when he or she holds himself or herself out to be a psychological technician. A psychological technician may not use the title psychologist or hold himself or herself out to the public or knowingly allow himself or herself to be held out to the public as a psychologist. A licensed psychological technician shall not practice or present himself or herself outside the area of competence as approved by the board based upon the examination and review of the qualifications, training, and experience of the individual. A psychological technician with adequate training may directly provide any of the following services without supervision:

a. Administering and interpreting tests: A psychological technician may administer and interpret tests of intelligence, achievement, aptitudes, and interests, and testing for educational or vocational selection, guidance, or placement.

b. Interviewing and screening: A psychological technician may conduct initial screening interviews which may lead to referrals for more extensive evaluation or treatment. A psychological technician may also administer adjective checklists, behavior rating scales, and other rating devices which may be completed by a variety of professional and non-professional observers.

c. Psychoeducational interventions: Psychological technicians may provide didactic psychoeducational services to individuals or groups. The purpose of such groups is to disseminate information and educate clients.

(2) A psychological technician who meets the education and training requirements of this chapter shall not provide any of the following services except under the qualified supervision of a licensed psychologist:

a. Personality appraisal. Personality appraisal as performed by the psychological technician is defined as any objective assessment or evaluative technique that leads to conclusions, inferences, and hypotheses regarding personality functioning. Included are all statements relative to personality attributes, features, traits, structure, dynamics, and pathology or assets. These activities shall allow for the process of deciding the nature of the psychological disorder or condition.

b. Clinical intervention. Includes the use of the principles, methods, and procedures of the science and profession of psychology for the treatment of individuals, groups, and families, and behavior management and behavior modification procedures with clinical populations.

c. Consultation services. Services provided to other agencies by psychological technicians acting in the role of consultants are subject to the same rules for supervision as services provided directly by the psychological technician in his or her place of employment.

d. Assistance with forensic assessments and neuropsychological evaluations. A psychological technician may assist a trained neuropsychologist in the administration of neuropsychological procedures or a qualified psychologist in forensic assessment. Independent forensic assessments and neuropsychological evaluations are outside of the scope of practice for psychological technicians.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 2; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3; Act 98-146, p. 230, § 3.)

§ 34-26-2. Confidential relations between licensed psychologists, licensed psychiatrists, or licensed psychological technicians and their clients.

For the purpose of this chapter, the confidential relations and communications between licensed psychologists, licensed psychiatrists, or licensed psychological technicians and their clients are placed upon the same basis as those provided by law between attorney and client, and nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require any such privileged communication to be disclosed.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 14; Acts 1979, No. 79-603, p. 1068, § 1; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3.)

§ 34-26-3. Code of ethics. References

The Board of Examiners shall adopt the Code of Ethics of the American Psychological Association to govern appropriate practices or behavior as referred to in Section 34-26-46 and Section 34-26-47 and shall file such code with the Secretary of State within 30 days prior to the effective date of such code.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 15.)

ARTICLE 2. BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

§ 34-26-20. Creation.

There is hereby created a board to be known as the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology composed of five members, appointed by the Governor of this state within 60 days after October 1, 1963, in the manner and for the term of office as hereinafter provided. The board shall perform such duties and have such powers as this chapter prescribes and confers upon it.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 1.)

§ 34-26-21. Composition; powers and duties; psychological technician; oath; meetings.

(a) There is created a State Board of Examiners in Psychology to consist of seven persons who are residents of this state, who shall be appointed by the Governor under conditions set forth in this section. At least two members shall be chosen from and shall be members of the faculty, with the rank of assistant professor or above, of the accredited colleges and universities of the state, shall be licensed psychologists under this chapter, and shall be primarily engaged in teaching, research, or administration of psychology. Three members shall be licensed practicing psychologists under this chapter. One member shall be licensed as a psychological technician or qualified for licensure as a psychological technician under this chapter.

The board shall perform those duties and exercise those powers prescribed in this chapter. No member of the board shall be liable to civil action for any act performed in good faith in the performance of his or her duty pursuant to this chapter. Original appointments to the board shall be for terms as follows: One practicing psychologist for a term of one year, one academic psychologist for a term of two years, one practicing psychologist for a term of three years, one academic psychologist for a term of four years, and one practicing psychologist for a term of five years. Vacancies shall be filled for any unexpired term, and members shall serve until their successors are appointed and have qualified.

Board members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms of office. Within 30 days after October 1, 1963, the Executive Committee of the Alabama Psychological Association, or of its successor organization, shall submit to the Governor a list of qualified candidates for the original five positions on the board. The list shall contain names of at least two qualified academic psychologists and two qualified practicing psychologists, from which the Governor shall select the board within 60 days. Not later than October 1 of each year the executive committee of the association, or of its successor organization, shall submit to the Governor the names of two qualified candidates for the position of the board to be vacated by reason of expiration of term of office. From the two candidates the Governor shall appoint one member

not later than January 1 to serve on the board for a term of five years. With the exception of the two members appointed from the general public pursuant to subsection (b), other vacancies occurring in the board shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment of the Governor from two qualified candidates for each vacancy submitted within 30 days after the vacancy occurs by the executive committee of the association, or by its successor organization. Those appointments shall be made within 30 days after the candidates' names have been submitted. If the association, or its successor organization, fails to furnish the Governor with the list of persons eligible for appointment to the board, the Governor shall appoint any qualified members of the profession of psychology to the vacant position on the board.

(b)(1) Within 30 days following October 1, 1988, the Governor shall appoint two new members to the board for five-year terms of office. Each of the two new members shall be members of the general public, and Alabama residents who are not licensed by the board, and whose spouses, if married, are not licensed by the board. One of the two new public members, and his or her successors, shall be Black. Vacancies for unexpired terms shall be filled by the Governor. Successor public members shall be appointed by the Governor.

(2) Immediately upon the expiration or vacancy of the public position not held by a Black individual that public position on the board shall be abolished. Thereafter, only one public position shall remain on the board. That public position shall continue to be filled by a member of the general public who is Black.

(c)(1) On October 1, 1997, there is created a psychological technician position on the board. The Governor shall appoint a candidate to the psychological technician position on the board. The person initially appointed to fill the psychological technician position on the board shall have a master's degree in psychology and shall not be required to be a licensed psychological technician. Any subsequent appointment to the psychological technician position on the board shall be a licensed psychological technician.

(2) To fill the psychological technician position on the board, the Alabama Psychological Association, or its successor organization, shall submit a list of four nominees to the executive committee of the association, or its successor organization, who shall select two names from the list to be submitted to the Governor.

(d) Any board members may be removed by the Governor after notice and hearing for incompetence, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, or moral turpitude.

(e) Immediately before entering public duties of the office, the members of the board shall take the constitutional oath of office and shall file the oath in the Office of the Governor, who upon receiving the oath shall issue to each member a certificate of appointment. The board shall have available for the Governor or his or her representative detailed reports on proceedings and shall make annual reports in the form required by the Governor.

(f) The board shall elect annually a chair and vice-chair. Each member shall receive the same per diem and travel allowance paid to state employees for each day's attendance at an official meeting of the board. The board shall hold at least one regular meeting each year. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the chair or at the written request of any two members of the board. The board shall adopt a seal which shall be affixed to all certificates issued by the board. The board shall from time to time adopt rules and regulations necessary for the performance of its duties. Four members of the board shall constitute a quorum. The board may hire any assistants necessary to carry on its activities within the limit of funds available to the board. The board may accept grants from foundations, individuals, and institutions to carry

on its functions.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 4; Acts 1988, No. 88-216, p. 332, § 3; Acts 1992, No. 92-125, p. 230, § 3; Acts 1996, No. 96-394, p. 482, § 1; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3; Act 98-146, p. 230, § 3; Act 2004-90, p. 119, § 3.)

§ 34-26-22. Certain powers and duties enumerated; annual registration fee; list of registered psychologists and psychological technicians; continuing education; rules and regulations.

(a) The Board of Examiners in Psychology shall have authority to administer oaths, to summon witnesses and to take testimony in all matters relating to its duties. The board shall be the sole agency in this state empowered to certify concerning competence in the practice of psychology and the sole board empowered to recommend licensure for the practice of psychology. The board shall have the power to recognize areas of specialization for practice and supervision, and to ensure through rules and regulations and enforcement that licensees limit their practice to demonstrated areas of competence as documented by relevant professional education, training, and experience. No individual shall be issued a license for the practice of psychology who has not been previously certified at the appropriate level of practice by the board. The board shall certify as competent to practice psychology or as competent to practice as a psychological technician all persons who shall present satisfactory evidence of attainments and qualifications under provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations of the board. The certification shall be signed by the chair of the board under the adopted seal of the board. The chair shall, under the direction of the board, aid the district attorneys in the enforcement of this chapter and the prosecutions of all persons charged with the violation of its provisions. Psychologists and psychological technicians licensed by the board shall be required to submit annually to the board a completed registration fee of up to one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for psychologists and of up to one hundred dollars (\$100) for psychological technicians as set by the board, after the first year. The list of registered psychologists and registered psychological technicians shall be made available to interested individuals or organizations at a nominal charge.

(b) By the year 1990 the board shall implement requirements through its rules and regulations that licensees shall engage in annual continuing education activities other than individual study to renew the license to practice. The board may charge a reasonable fee to register and keep records of licensees' continuing education credits. Failure to engage in continuing education or failure to pay fees for registration of continuing education credits will provide grounds for suspension of licensure.

(c) The board may promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the requirements of this chapter. The rules and regulations shall be adopted pursuant to the state administrative procedure statutes.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 13; Acts 1979, No. 79-106, p. 127, § 1(a); Acts 1987, No. 87-569, p. 893, § 1; Acts 1988, No. 88-216, p. 332, § 3; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3.)

ARTICLE 3. LICENSES.

§ 34-26-40. Required; exceptions; psychological interns or trainees.

(a) It is specifically prohibited that any individual or organization shall present himself, herself, or it, or be presented to the public by any title incorporating the name "psychological," "psychologist," or "psychology" other than so licensed by this chapter. Any psychological scientist, including a school psychologist who holds a certificate issued by the State Superintendent of Education, employed by a recognized research laboratory, school, college, university, or governmental agency or department may represent himself or herself by the academic or research title conferred upon him or her by the administration of the laboratory, school, college or university, or any governmental agency or department. Nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting such persons to offer their services to any other persons or organizations as consultants or to accept remuneration for any psychological services other than that of their institutional salaries, unless they have been licensed under this chapter. Visiting lecturers from recognized laboratories, schools, colleges, universities, or any governmental agencies or departments are exempt from the provisions of this section and may utilize their academic or research titles when presenting lectures or performing any consultation as might be required in their academic or research functions. Students of psychology, psychological interns, and other persons preparing for the profession of psychology under qualified supervision in recognized training institutions or facilities may be designated by such titles as "psychological intern," "psychological trainee," or others clearly indicating such training status. No individual may employ or use the title "licensed psychologist" or imply in any way that he or she is licensed by the board unless he or she is actually so licensed and registered under this chapter.

(b) No person working for any recognized state department or agency, research laboratory, school, college, or university shall be required to have any license issued pursuant to this chapter to perform their job duties and responsibilities related to their position or employment status with these entities.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 3; Acts 1996, No. 96-394, p. 482, § 1; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3.)

§ 34-26-41. Applications; qualifications of applicants.

(a)(1) Any person wishing to obtain the right to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician in this state, who has not heretofore been licensed to do so, shall, before it shall be lawful for him or her to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician in this state, make application to the Board of Examiners in Psychology through the chair upon such form and in such manner as prescribed by the board.

(2) Unless a person has first obtained a valid license as aforesaid, it shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter for him or her to practice.

(b) A candidate for licensure as a psychologist shall furnish the board with satisfactory evidence of all of the following:

(1) He or she is of good moral character.

(2) He or she is at least 19 years of age.

(3) He or she has received a doctorate degree from a department of, or school of, psychology, from an educational institution accredited and recognized by national and regional accrediting agencies as maintaining satisfactory standards.

(4) He or she is competent in psychology as shown by passing such examinations, written or oral, or both, as the board will prescribe, unless exempted pursuant to subsection (d).

(5) He or she is not engaged in unethical practice as defined in the Code of Ethics of the American Psychological Association.

(6) He or she has not within the preceding six months failed an examination given by the board.

(7) He or she is a citizen of the United States or, if not a citizen of the United States, a person who is legally present in the United States with appropriate documentation from the federal government.

(c) The board may issue a license to any person who is a licensed psychologist of another state, and who applies to the board, provided the licensee of another state shall furnish the board with satisfactory evidence of all of the following:

(1) He or she is of good moral character, and holds his or her license in good standing from another state.

(2) He or she is at least 19 years of age.

(3) He or she has received a doctorate degree in psychology from an educational institution accredited and recognized by national and regional accrediting agencies as maintaining satisfactory standards or, in lieu of a doctorate degree in psychology, a doctorate degree in a closely allied field, if the training received therefor is substantially similar to that required of doctorates obtained from departments of psychology.

(4) He or she is competent in psychology as shown by the passing of an examination, unless exempted pursuant to subsection (d), substantially equivalent to the examinations prescribed in subsection (a), or by the passing of a recognized national examination in psychology.

(5) He or she is not engaged in unethical practice as defined in the Code of Ethics of the American Psychological Association.

(6) He or she has practiced psychology in another state at least four consecutive years prior to application.

(7) That the other state under which he or she is licensed gives similar recognition and reciprocal licensing to licensed psychologists of this state.

(8) He or she is a citizen of the United States or, if not a citizen of the United States, a person who is legally present in the United States with appropriate documentation from the federal government.

(d) The board shall issue a license to any applicant with a doctoral degree in psychology who is otherwise qualified pursuant to subsections (a) and (b), who is licensed in at least two states, and who has passed a recognized national exam.

(e) A candidate for licensure as a psychological technician shall furnish the board with satisfactory evidence of all of the following:

(1) He or she is of good moral character.

(2) He or she is at least 19 years of age.

(3) He or she has a master's degree in psychology from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, or has completed the equivalent of a master's degree from an American Psychological Association accredited doctoral program in psychology, as determined by the board. Educational requirements are provided in Section 34-26-65.

(4) Is competent as a psychological technician, as shown by passing examinations,

written or oral, or both, as prescribed by the board.

(5) Is not engaged in unethical practice as defined in the most recent version of the Code of Ethics of the American Psychological Association.

(6) Has not within the preceding six months failed an examination given by the board. CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 5; Acts 1982, No. 82-152, p. 181, § 4; Acts 1988, No. 88-216, p. 332, § 3; Acts 1996, No. 96-394, p. 482, § 1; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3; Act 98-146, p. 230, § 3; Act 2008-140, p. 212, § 3.)

§ 34-26-42. Penalty for unlicensed person held out to public as psychologist or psychological technician.

If any person holds himself or herself out to the public as being engaged in practice as a psychologist or psychological technician, such as clinical, counseling, school, or combined professional-scientific psychology, and does not then possess in full force and virtue a valid license to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician under this chapter, he or she shall be deemed guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500). Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the professional pursuits of teachers in recognized public and private schools, clergymen, practitioners of medicine, social workers, and guidance counselors from full performance of their professional duties. However, in such performance any title shall be in accord with this chapter. Students of psychology, psychological interns, or other persons preparing for the profession of psychology may perform as a part of their training the functions specified in this chapter, but only under qualified supervision. Use of psychological techniques by business and industrial organizations for employment placement, evaluation, promotion, or job adjustment of their own officers or employees or by employment agencies for the evaluation of their own clients prior to recommendations for employment is also specifically allowed. However, no industrial or business firm or corporation may sell or offer to the public or to other firms or corporations for remuneration any psychological services as specified in this chapter unless the services are performed or supervised by individuals duly and appropriately licensed under this chapter.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 6; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3; Act 98-146, p. 230, § 3.)

§ 34-26-43. Fees; disposition of revenues of board; payment of expenses.

There shall be paid to the board chair by each applicant for a permanent license to practice psychology a fee not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200), and by each applicant for a permanent license to practice as a psychological technician a fee not to exceed one hundred forty dollars (\$140), as set by the board. No part of any fee shall be returnable under any circumstance other than failure of the board to hold examinations at the time originally announced, whereupon the entire fee may be returned at the option of the candidate. All fees collected in this manner plus renewal fees as outlined in Section 34-26-22 and all gifts or grants shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the board. Vouchers in payment of expenses shall be drawn on the state Comptroller signed by the chair or executive officer of the board.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 12; Acts 1979, No. 79-106, p. 127, § 1(b); Acts

1987, No. 87-569, p. 893, § 2; Acts 1988, No. 88-216, p. 332, § 3; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3.)

§ 34-26-43.1. Examination fee for candidates for licensure.

The Board of Examiners in Psychology shall charge each candidate for licensure as a psychologist or psychological technician an examination fee sufficient to cover the entire actual costs of the examination of the applicant.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1979, No. 79-106, p. 127, § 2; Acts 1987, No. 87-569, p. 893, § 3; Acts 1993, No. 93-151, p. 215, § 3; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3.)

§ 34-26-44. Conduct of examinations.

Examination of applicants for a license to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician shall be made by the board at least once a year according to methods and in such subject fields as may be deemed by the board to be the most practical and expeditious to test the qualifications of the applicant. The board shall require the examinations to be written or oral, or both. In any written examination the applicant shall be designated by a number instead of his or her name so that his or her identity shall not be disclosed to the members of the board until the examination papers have been graded. The board shall grade the written examinations returned by the candidates and shall keep them for at least one year. A candidate shall be held to have passed the examination upon the affirmative vote of three or more members of the board. Any unsuccessful candidate may, upon written request to the board, see his or her graded paper.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 7; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3.)

§ 34-26-45. Waiver of examination; persons licensed in other states.

For a period of two years from October 1, 1963, the board may waive either or both an assembled examination or the other requirements of Section 34-26-41 if it deems such action to be in the public interest and may grant the appropriate license upon payment of the required fee to any person who is qualified by experience to practice psychology and who has engaged in such practice of a nature satisfactory to the board for at least three years full time or its equivalent, within three years prior to October 1, 1963. At its discretion the board may at any time waive the assembled examination and grant the appropriate license upon payment of the required fee to any person who meets the requirements of Section 34-26-41 and who is qualified by educational and professional attainments to the satisfaction of the board if it deems such action to be in the public interest. The board may also at its discretion grant a certificate without an assembled examination to any person residing or employed in the state who at the time of the application is licensed or certified by a similar board of another state whose standards, in the opinion of the board, are not lower than those required by this chapter, or who has been practicing psychology in another state and has qualifications not lower than those required by this chapter, and is able to satisfy the board that to grant him a license would be in the public interest, or who has been certified by the American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 8.)

§ 34-26-46. Grounds for refusal of certificate or revocation or suspension of license.

(a) The board shall suspend, place on probation, or require remediation for any psychologist or psychological technician for a specified time, to be determined at the discretion of the board, or revoke any license to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician or take any other action specified in the rules and regulations whenever the board finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the psychologist or psychological technician has engaged in any of the following acts or offenses:

(1) Fraud or deception in applying for or procuring a license to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician; or in passing the examination provided for in this chapter.

(2) Practice as a psychologist or psychological technician under a false or assumed name or the impersonation of another practitioner of a like or different name.

(3) Immoral, unprofessional, or dishonorable conduct as defined in the rules and regulations promulgated by the board.

(4) Practicing as a psychologist or psychological technician in such a manner as to endanger the welfare of clients or patients.

(5) Conviction of felony (a copy of the record of conviction, certified to by the clerk of the court entering the conviction shall be conclusive evidence).

(6) Conviction of any crime or offense that reflects the inability of the practitioner to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician with due regard for the health and safety of clients or patients.

(7) Harassment, intimidation, or abuse, sexual or otherwise, of a client or patient.

(8) Engaging in sexual intercourse or other sexual contact with a client or patient.

(9) Use of repeated untruthful or deceptive or improbable statements concerning the licensee's qualifications or the effects or results of proposed treatment, including functioning outside of one's professional competence or area of specialization established by education, training, and experience as recognized by the board.

(10) Gross malpractice or repeated malpractice or gross negligence in practice as a psychologist or psychological technician.

(11) Aiding or abetting practice as a psychologist or psychological technician by any person not licensed by the board.

(12) Conviction of fraud in filing Medicare or Medicaid claims or in filing claims to any third party payor (a copy of the record of conviction, certified to by the clerk of the court entering the conviction, shall be conclusive evidence).

(13) Exercising undue influence in such a manner as to exploit the client, patient, student, or supervisee for financial or other personal advantage to the practitioner or a third party.

(14) The suspension or revocation by another state of a license to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician (a certified copy of the record of suspension or revocation of the state making such a suspension or revocation shall be conclusive evidence thereof).

(15) Refusal to appear before the board after having been ordered to do so in writing by the executive office or chair of the board.

(16) Making any fraudulent or untrue statement to the board.

(17) Violation of the code of ethics adopted in the rules and regulations of the board.

(18) Upon the recommendation of the Ethics Committee of the Alabama Psychological Association, or of its successor organization, or the Ethics Committee of the American Psychological Association.

(19) Inability to practice as a psychologist or psychological technician with reasonable skill and safety to patients or clients by reason of illness, inebriation, misuse of drugs, narcotics, alcohol, chemicals, or any other substance, or as a result of any mental or physical condition.

(20) Engaging in practice as a psychologist or psychological technician before a license is issued.

(21) Failure to engage in continuing education or failure to pay fees for registration of continuing education credits.

(22) Practice of a level of psychology inappropriate or beyond the scope of the particular license held by the licensee.

(23) Failure to comply with any of the respective responsibilities of a supervisor or supervisee as provided in this chapter.

(b) When the issue is whether or not a psychologist or psychological technician is physically or mentally capable of practicing as a psychologist or psychological technician with reasonable skill and safety to patients or clients, then, upon a showing of probable cause to the board that the psychologist or psychological technician is not capable of practicing psychology with reasonable skill and safety to patients, the board may petition a court of competent jurisdiction to order the psychologist or psychological technician in question to submit to a psychological examination by a psychologist to determine psychological status and/or a physical examination by a physician to determine physical condition. The psychologist and/or physician is to be designated by the court. The expense of the examination shall be borne by the board. Where the psychologist or psychological technician raises the issue of mental or physical competence or appeals a decision regarding his or her mental or physical competence, the psychologist or psychological technician shall be permitted to obtain his or her own evaluation at his or her own expense. If the objectivity or adequacy of the examination is suspect, the board may complete an examination by its designated practitioners at its own expense. When mental or physical capacity to practice is at issue, every psychologist or psychological technician licensed to practice in the state shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination or to any combination of such examinations and to waive all objections to the admissibility of the examination, or to previously adjudicated evidence of mental incompetence.

(c) The board may assess the cost of any investigation, legal service, legal proceeding, or disciplinary action against any applicant or licensee found to be in violation of this chapter.

(d) The Board of Examiners in Psychology may refuse to grant a certificate, or may recommend suspension of any license for a definite period not to exceed three years. The board may, upon satisfactory proof that any applicant or licensee has been guilty of any of the above offenses, refuse to grant a certificate to the applicant or may recommend revocation of a license of the licensee upon a vote of at least four members of the board. After three years from the date of a revocation, an application for reinstatement may be made to the board, and it may, upon favorable action by four of its members, recommend reinstatement.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 9; Acts 1988, No. 88-216, p. 332, § 3; Acts 1997, No. 97-387, p. 619, § 3; Act 98-146, p. 230, § 3.)

§ 34-26-47. Notice and hearing required prior to refusal, revocation, or suspension.

The board may not recommend suspension or revocation of licensure or refuse to issue or to renew any certificate for any cause listed in Section 34-26-46 unless the person accused has been given at least 20 days' notice in writing of the charge against him or her and a public hearing by the board. The written notice shall be mailed to the person's last known address, but the nonappearance of the person shall not prevent such a hearing. Upon such a hearing the board may administer oath and procure by its subpoenas the attendance of witness and the production of relevant books and papers.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 10.)

§ 34-26-48. Review of action of board.

Any action of, or ruling or order made or entered by the board declining to issue a certificate, declining to recommend licensure, or recommending suspension or revocation of a certificate or license shall be subject to review by the courts of this state in the same manner and subject to the same powers and conditions as now provided by law in regard to rulings, orders, and findings of other quasi-judicial bodies in Alabama, where not otherwise specifically provided. No such appeal while pending appropriate court action shall supersede such revocation or suspension.

CREDIT(S) (Acts 1963, No. 535, p. 1147, § 11.)

§ 34-26-60. Scope of supervision; qualifications of supervisors.

(a) The scope of mandated supervision shall depend upon the specific areas of practice, experience, and training of the supervisee. Mandated supervision shall assure that an appropriate professional standard is being applied to the solution of the problem of a client, and that the laws that govern the practice of psychology and the ethics that guide the practice are understood and followed. The scope of mandated supervision may include enhancement and refinement of previously learned skills, but shall not include introductory training of a supervisee in additional skills, methods, or interventions. Supervision shall include consideration of all of the following areas:

- (1) Ethical, legal, and professional standards.
- (2) Technical skills and competency.
- (3) The utilization of supervision by a supervisee.
- (4) The ability of a supervisee to function independently or with reduced supervision.

(b) Specific supervision shall not be required for each person evaluated or treated, or for every treatment, evaluative technique, or professional activity undertaken. Supervisors shall be required to co-sign reports and other appropriate documents.

(c) A licensed psychologist shall be recognized by the board as an appropriate supervisor for a psychological technician supervisee. The board may disapprove of an otherwise qualified psychologist acting as a supervisor for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Evidence that he or she is not competent or qualified to supervise a supervisee.
- (2) Evidence that he or she has failed to adhere to ethical or legal standards of the

profession.

(3) Evidence that there is a lack of congruence between the training, experience, and area of practice of the proposed supervisor and the proposed area of practice of the supervisee.

(4) Evidence that he or she has a license against which disciplinary or remedial action has been taken.

CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 4.)

§ 34-26-61. Duties--Supervisors.

(a) A licensed psychologist acting as a supervisor shall perform all of the following duties:

(1) Offer and provide supervision only within the area of his or her competence and assure that his or her professional expertise and experience is congruent with the practice of the supervisee.

(2) Prior to beginning supervision, enter into a written agreement with the supervisee on a board adopted supervision contract form which details the obligations of the supervisee as well as the responsibilities of the supervisor to the supervisee. This form shall be filed with and accepted by the board.

(3) Direct the supervisee to practice only within the areas for which he or she is qualified by education, training, and supervised experience.

(4) Establish and maintain a level of supervisory contact consistent with established professional standards and remain accessible to the supervisee.

(5) Direct the supervisee to keep him or her informed of services provided by the supervisee.

(6) If he or she has reason to believe that the supervisee is practicing in a manner which indicates that ethical or legal violations have been committed, he or she shall proceed as prescribed by the most recent version of the Code of Ethics of the American Psychological Association.

(7) Maintain a clear and accurate record of supervision with a supervisee that protects the confidentiality of the clients of the supervisee.

(8) Report annually on the required form to the board that the agreed upon supervision has occurred.

(9) File a final supervision report with the board within two weeks of the termination of supervision.

(10) Insure the written notification to clients or patients of the supervisory process, including the disclosure of clinical information to the supervisor and the means by which the supervisor may be contacted.

(b) Failure to comply with any of the duties specified in subsection (a) shall constitute a violation of this chapter.

(c) To maintain the professional nature of the supervision, a familial or strong personal relationship between the supervisor and his or her supervisee is prohibited, except in extraordinary circumstances such as the lack of availability of any other qualified supervisor. In such cases, the board shall require documentation that no other supervision is available and shall require reference letters from colleagues commenting on the appropriateness of the supervisory relationship.

CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 4.)

§ 34-26-62. Duties--Supervisees.

(a) A psychological technician supervisee shall perform all of the following duties:

(1) Enter into a written agreement with the supervisor, using a board adopted supervision contract form, which details the obligations of the supervisee as well as the responsibilities of the supervisor to the supervisee. This form shall be filed with and accepted by the board prior to practice.

(2) Attend scheduled supervision sessions.

(3) Provide the supervisor with a disclosure of psychological services being offered or rendered by him or her.

(4) Cooperate with the supervisor to assure that all conditions of the supervision are fulfilled.

(5) Provide the supervisor with information necessary for the supervisor to advise him or her on cases presenting professional, ethical, or legal concerns.

(6) File a revised supervision contract form within 45 days of a change in the conditions specified in the supervision contract form on file with the board.

(7) Obtain a written, signed consent from each patient or client that informs them of the supervisory process.

(b) Failure to comply with any of the duties specified in subsection (a) shall constitute a Class C misdemeanor.

CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 4.)

§ 34-26-63. Practice outside state; supervision contract form; final report; additional supervision.

(a) A psychological technician who practices in a jurisdiction outside of the state shall not be required to receive supervision for services rendered in that jurisdiction so long as the services are rendered in a manner consistent with the legal requirements of the jurisdiction.

(b) The initial supervision contract form shall be filed with and accepted by the board prior to any practice.

(c) An amended written supervision contract form shall be filed with the board within 45 days of any change in the conditions specified in the supervision contract form on file with the board. Additionally, within 14 days after receiving written notification from the board that the filing of a new supervision contract form is necessary to provide for the protection of the public or the regulation of the practice of psychology, an amended written supervision contract form shall be filed with the board. A supervision contract form shall document either that supervision is required and is received, or that supervision is not required. A separate supervision contract form shall be filed for each separate work setting. If receiving supervision from more than one supervisor to meet minimum requirements, a separate supervision contract form shall be filed for each individual supervisor.

(d) A supervisor shall report to the board that agreed upon supervision has been provided and shall file a final report with the board upon the termination of supervision. If a psychological technician is not receiving supervision, it is his or her responsibility to report that fact to the board within 14 days. A report shall be submitted to the board within 14 days after

receiving written notification from the board that a report is due, within 14 days after the termination of supervision, and within 45 days after a change in the conditions specified in the supervision contract form on file with the board.

(e) Additional supervision and reporting to the board may be required if previous evaluations or other information suggest possible problems with the competence or ethical standards of the supervisee. Additional documentation or an interview with the board or a designated representative of the board may be required if questions arise regarding the practice of the supervisee.

(f) Supervision shall be provided in face-to-face and primarily one-on-one sessions by the supervisor of record. The rate of supervision specified in this section shall be provided for each separate work setting in which the psychological technician supervisee engages in an activity requiring supervision.

CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 4.)

§ 34-26-64. Supervision requirements.

Minimum supervision requirements are as follows:

1) Level I. For a psychological technician with less than two calendar years of supervised practice as a licensed psychological technician, consisting of at least 3,000 hours of supervised practice, minimum supervision shall be provided as follows:

a. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is one to 20, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be two.

b. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 21 to 30, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be three.

c. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 31 to 40, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be four.

d. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 41 to 60, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be five.

e. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 61 or greater, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be six.

(2)a. Level II. For a psychological technician with a minimum of two calendar years of supervised practice as a licensed psychological technician, consisting of at least 3,000 hours of supervised practice, minimum supervision shall be provided as follows:

1. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is one to 20, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be one.

2. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 21 to 60, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be two.

3. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 61 to 100, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be three.

4. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 101 or greater, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be four.

b. To be approved by the board for Level II supervision, a psychological technician shall do all of the following:

1. Make application to the board on an application form provided by the board.
2. Have received at least one calendar year of supervision from his or her most recent supervisor.

3. Provide a written recommendation from his or her most recent supervisor for this level of supervision and letters from all available previous supervisors.

(3)a. Level III. For a psychological technician with a minimum of seven calendar years of supervised practice as a licensed psychological technician, consisting of at least 10,500 hours of supervised practice, minimum supervision shall be provided as follows:

1. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is one to 50, inclusive, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be one.
2. If the number of hours per month spent engaging in activities requiring supervision is 51 or greater, the number of required hours of supervision per month shall be two.

b. To be approved by the board for Level III supervision, a psychological technician shall do all of the following:

1. Make application to the board on an application form provided by the board.
2. Have received at least one calendar year of supervision from his or her most recent supervisor.

3. Provide a written recommendation from his or her most recent supervisor for this level of supervision and letters from all available previous supervisors.

(4)a. Prior to September 1, 2000, a licensed psychological technician with a minimum of two calendar years of supervised practice, consisting of at least 3,000 hours of supervised practice by a licensed psychologist, may apply for Level II supervision status.

b. To be approved by the board for this Level II supervision status, a psychological technician shall do all of the following:

1. Make application to the board on an application form provided by the board.
2. Have received at least one calendar year of supervision from his or her most recent supervisor.

3. Provide a written recommendation from his or her most recent supervisor for this level of supervision and letters from all available previous supervisors.

(5) Contract and report forms shall be provided by the board.

CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 4.)

§ 34-26-65. Psychology program requirements.

Prior to September 1, 2000, the degree program of the applicant shall be publicly identified and clearly labeled as a psychology program. On and after September 1, 2000, the degree program of the applicant shall meet all of the following requirements:

- (1) The program shall be publicly identified and clearly labeled as a psychology program.
- (2) The program shall maintain clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and concentration areas whether or not the program crosses administrative lines.
- (3) The program shall have an identifiable body of students in residence at the

institution who are matriculated in the program for degree purposes.

(4) The program shall have an identifiable full-time psychology faculty in residence at the institution, sufficient in size and breadth to carry out the responsibilities of the program, and employed by and providing instruction at the main campus of the institution.

(5) There shall be a psychologist responsible for the program as the administrative head of the program, the advisor, a major professor, or the committee chair.

(6) The program shall be an integrated, organized sequence of study in psychology as demonstrated by an identifiable curriculum track or tracks wherein course sequences are outlined.

(7) The program shall encompass the equivalent of a minimum of two academic years, at least one of which shall be one academic year of full-time graduate study in student residence at the institution from which the degree is granted. Residence requires interaction with psychology faculty and other matriculated psychology students. A one year residency shall consist of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours taken on a full-time or part-time basis at the institution.

(8) The program shall include practica or other field experience appropriate to the area of specialty and practice as a psychological technician. This experience shall satisfy all of the following criteria:

a. The experience shall be a planned or directed program of training in psychology, in contrast to on-the-job training, and shall have provided the trainee with a planned and directed sequence of training integrated with the educational program in which the trainee is enrolled. The training shall be planned by the faculty of the program rather than by the trainee.

b. The training site shall have a clearly designated and licensed psychologist who is responsible for the integrity and quality of the training program.

c. The training shall last a minimum of six months and consist of at least 500 hours of supervised training. At least 50 percent of the training shall be spent in direct contact with patients or clients.

d. The training program shall have a written program description detailing the functioning of the program and shall be approved by the psychology program of the trainee before training occurs.

e. The training site staff shall provide a minimum of one hour per five hours of client contact of face-to-face, primarily individual, regularly scheduled supervision, overseeing the training experience.

f. Supervision may be provided in part by psychiatrists, social workers, or other related professionals qualified by the training site. At least 60 percent of the supervision shall be provided by a licensed psychologist.

g. A person enrolled in a training program shall be designated as a practicum student, or any other designation which clearly indicates training status.

(9)a. The program shall include a minimum of 45 semester hours or 68 quarter hours of graduate study in standard psychology courses, including courses drawn from academic psychology, such as social, experimental, physiological, developmental, history and systems, and statistics and research design.

1. Of the required semester or quarter hours, not more than six semester or nine quarter hours shall be credited for practicum and not more than six semester or nine

quarter hours shall be credited for thesis.

2. No credit shall be allowed for audited courses or courses taken at an institution which is not a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

b. An applicant whose credentials have been approved by the board for examination at the licensed psychologist level may be issued a license as a psychological technician if the applicant fails an examination at the licensed psychologist level but passes the examination at the licensed psychological technician level. To receive this license, the applicant shall file all required application materials with the board for licensure at the psychological technician level.
CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 4.)

§ 34-26-66. Violations.

After one year from March 11, 1998, no person shall hold himself or herself out to the public as a licensed psychological technician or practice as a psychological technician unless licensed by the board. Failure to comply with this section shall constitute a Class C misdemeanor.

CREDIT(S) (Act 98-146, p. 230, § 5.)

Board Members



ALABAMA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN PSYCHOLOGY

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August 11, 2011

Roster of Board Members

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>EXPIRATION OF TERM</u>
Clara Gerhardt, M.B.A., Ph.D., Chair Birmingham, AL	January, 2013
Pamela R. Snider, Ph.D., Psychologist Member Montgomery, AL	January, 2015
Larry W. Bates, Ph.D., Psychologist Member Florence, AL	January, 2012
Mrs. Chacoby N. Burns-Johnson, Public Member Montgomery, AL	January, 2015
Joseph Alan Taylor, M.S., Psychological Technician Montgomery, AL	January, 2015
Thomas J. Boll, Ph.D., Vice Chair Birmingham, AL	January, 2014
Joseph D. Ackerson, Ph.D., Psychologist Member Birmingham, AL	January, 2016

Official

Lori Rall, Executive Officer



Lori Rall, Executive Officer